

Appl. No. 09/643,224
Amdt. Dated June 11, 2004
Reply to Office action of April 27, 2004
Attorney Docket No. P11832/64645-1025
EUS/J/P/04-8130

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Amendments

The Applicants have amended Claims 21, 30, 32, 33, 36 and 38; Claims 1-20 have been cancelled. Accordingly, Claims 21-40 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Examiner Objections

The Examiner objected to Claims 33 and 38 because of certain informalities. Applicants extremely appreciate the suggestions provided by the Examiner and the appropriate corrections have been made to those claims.

3.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected Claims 21-40 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. More specifically, the Examiner stated that independent claims 21, 32 and 36 all disclosed "interworking function (IWF)" when there was no mention of an "interworking function" or "IWF" in the specification. Applicants respectfully submit that the function of taking circuited switch data and transporting them over a packet based network as disclosed in the present invention is commonly known as the "interworking (IWF)" function in the telecommunication industry. Nevertheless, in view of the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have amended independent Claims 21, 32 and 36 to remove references to

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the term "interworking" or "IWF" in the pending claims. A favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Examiner further rejected claim 30 since there was insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "said third termination point." Applicants again appreciate the Examiner's comments and have accordingly amended Claim 30 to overcome the insufficient antecedent basis.

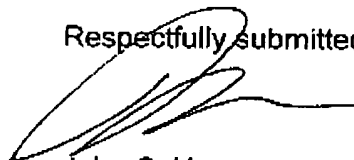
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for Claims 21-40.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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